

CLAIMS

1. A method for generating an image for display; said method including the steps of: selecting a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; specifying a position, to be occupied in the display, for each part image in said set of part images; specifying the properties for each part image in said set of part images; and displaying each part image according to the specifications.

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2. A method, according to claim 1, including the step of specifying a viewpoint.

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3. A method, according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said step of specifying the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of specifying the colour of each part image in said set of part images.

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4. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said step of specifying the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of specifying the texture of each part image in said set of part images.

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5. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said step of specifying the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of specifying a cladding to be applied to each part image in said set of part images.

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6. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said step of specifying the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of specifying the orientation of each part image in said set of part images.

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7. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said step of specifying the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of specifying the size of each part image in said set of part images.

8. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said step of specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of specifying the 5 transparency of each part image in said set of part images.

9. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said step of specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of specifying the 10 direction of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

10. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said step of specify the properties of each part image in 15 said set of part images includes the step of specifying the type of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

11. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said step of specify the properties of each part image in 20 said set of part images includes the step of specifying the speed of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

12. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said step of specify the properties of each part image in 25 said set of part images includes the step of specifying the time or times to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images.

13. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, 30 including the step of obtaining said set of part images from a server in a network.

14. A method, according to claim 13, wherein said network comprises a mobile telephone network.

35 15. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, for use where the image is to be displayed on a computer.

16. A method, according to any one of claims 1 to 14, for use where the image is to be displayed on a personal digital assistant.

5 17. A method, according to any one of claims 1 to 14, for use where the image is to be displayed on a mobile telephone.

10 18. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, including the step of providing said selection of a set of part images from among a plurality of part images includes the step of providing said selection of a set of parts in the form of a text message.

15 19. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, including the step of providing said specification of a position, to be occupied in the display, in the form of a text message.

20 20. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, including the step of providing said specification of the properties for each part image in said set of part images in the form of a text message.

25 21. A method, according to any one of claims 18, 19 or 20, including the step of receiving said specification as a text message.

22. A method, according to any one of claims 18, 19 or 20, including the step of receiving said specification as an appendage to a text message.

30 23. A method, according to any one of the preceding claims, including the step of compacting codes used to represent said selections.

35 24. A method for transmitting an image, said method including the steps of: sending a signal to specify a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; sending a signal to specify a

position, to be occupied in the display, for each part image in said set of part images; and sending a signal to specify the properties for each part image in said set of part images.

5 25. A method, according to claim 24, including the step of sending a specification of a viewpoint.

10 26. A method, according to claim 4 or claim 25, wherein said step of sending a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of sending a specification of the colour of each part image in said set of part images.

15 27. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 26, wherein said step of sending a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of sending a specification of the texture of each part image in said set of part images.

20 28. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 27, wherein said step of sending a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of sending a specification of a cladding to be applied to each part image in said set of part images.

25 29. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 28, wherein said step of sending a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of sending a specification of the orientation of each part image in said set of part images.

30 30. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 29, wherein said step of sending a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of sending a specification of the size of each part image in said set of part images.

31. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 30, wherein said step of sending a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of sending a specification of the transparency of each part image in said set of part images.

5 32. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 31, wherein said step of sending a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of sending a specification of the direction of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

10 33. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 32, wherein said step of sending a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of sending a specification of the type of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

20 34. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 33, wherein said step of sending a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of sending a specification of the speed of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

25 35. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 34, wherein said step of sending a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of sending a specification of the time or times to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images.

30 36. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 35, including the step of obtaining said set of part images from a server in a network.

35 37. A method, according to claim 36, wherein said network comprises a mobile telephone network.

38. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 37, for use where the image is to be displayed on a computer.

5 39. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 37, for use where the image is to be displayed on a personal digital assistant.

40. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 37, for use where the image is to be displayed on a mobile telephone.

10 41. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 40, including the step of sending said selection of a set of part images from among a plurality of part images includes the step of providing said selection of a set of parts as a text message.

15 42. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 41, including the step of sending said specification of a position, to be occupied in the display as a text message.

20 43. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 42, including the step of sending said specification of the properties for each part image in said set of part images as a text message.

44. A method, according to any one of claims 41, 42 or 43, including the step of sending said specifications as a text message.

25 45. A method, according to claim 44, including the step of receiving said specifications as a text message.

30 46. A method, according to any one of claims 41, 42 or 43, including the step of sending said specification as an appendage to a text message.

47. A method, according to claims 46, including the step of receiving said specification as an appendage to a text message.

35 48. A method, according to any one of claims 24 to 47, including the step of sending said selections as compacting codes.

49. A method for receiving and generating an image, said method including the steps of: receiving a signal to specify a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; receiving a signal to specify a position, to be occupied in the display, for each part image in said set of part images; receiving a signal to specify the properties for each part image in said set of part images; and responding to said signals to generate and display the specified image.

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50. A method, according to claim 49, including the step of receiving a specification of a viewpoint.

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51. A method, according to claim 49 or claim 50, wherein said step of receiving a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of receiving a specification of the colour of each part image in said set of part images.

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52. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 51, wherein said step of receiving a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of receiving a specification of the texture of each part image in said set of part images.

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53. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 52, wherein said step of receiving a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of receiving a specification of a cladding to be applied to each part image in said set of part images.

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54. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 53, wherein said step of receiving a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of receiving a specification of the orientation of each part image in said set of part images.

55. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 54, wherein said step of receiving a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of receiving a specification of the size of each part image in said set of part images.

5 56. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 55, wherein said step of receiving a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of receiving 10 a specification of the transparency of each part image in said set of part images.

15 57. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 56, wherein said step of receiving a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of receiving a specification of the direction of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

20 58. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 57, wherein said step of receiving a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of receiving a specification of the type of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

25 59. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 58, wherein said step of receiving a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of receiving a specification of the speed of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

30 60. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 59, wherein said step of receiving a specification of the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes the step of receiving a specification of the time or times to be displayed for each part 35 image in said set of part images.

61. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 60, including the step of obtaining said set of part images from a server in a network.

5 62. A method, according to claim 61, wherein said network comprises a mobile telephone network.

63. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 62, for use where the image is to be displayed on a computer.

10 64. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 62, for use where the image is to be displayed on a personal digital assistant.

15 65. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 62, for use where the image is to be displayed on a mobile telephone.

66. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 65, including the step of receiving said selection of a set of part images from among a plurality of part images as a text message.

20 67. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 66, including the step of receiving said specification of a position, to be occupied in the display as a text message.

25 68. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 67, including the step of receiving said specification of the properties for each part image in said set of part images as a text message.

69. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 67, including the step of receiving said specifications as an appendage to a text message.

70. A method, according to any one of claims 49 to 69, including the step of receiving said specifications as compacted codes.

35 71. An apparatus for generating an image for display; said apparatus comprising: means to select a set of part images from

among a plurality of part images; means to specify a position, to be occupied in the display, for each part image in said set of part images; means to specify the properties for each part image in said set of part images; and means to display each part image according  
5 to the specifications.

72. An apparatus, according to claim 71, including means to specify a viewpoint.

10 73. An apparatus, according to claim 71 or claim 72, wherein said means to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to specify the colour of each part image in said set of part images.

15 74. An apparatus, according to any one of claim 71 to 73, wherein said means to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to specify the texture of each part image in said set of part images.

20 75. An apparatus, according to any one of claim 71 to 74, wherein said means to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to specify a cladding to be applied to each part image in said set of part images.

25 76. An apparatus, according to any one of claim 71 to 75, wherein said means to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to specify the orientation of each part image in said set of part images.

30 77. An apparatus, according to any one of claim 71 to 76, wherein said means to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to specify the size of each part image in said set of part images.

35 78. An apparatus, according to any one of claim 71 to 77, wherein said means to specify the properties of each part image in

said set of part images includes means to specify the transparency of each part image in said set of part images.

79. An apparatus, according to any one of claim 71 to 78,  
5 wherein said means to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to specify the direction of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

80. An apparatus, according to any one of claim 71 to 79,  
10 wherein said means to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to specify the type of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

81. An apparatus, according to any one of claim 71 to 80,  
15 wherein said means to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to specify the speed of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

82. An apparatus, according to any one of claim 71 to 81,  
20 wherein said means to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to specify the time or times to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images.

83. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 71 to 82,  
25 including means to obtain said set of part images from a server in a network.

84. An apparatus, according to claim 83, wherein said network comprises a mobile telephone network.

30 85. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 71 to 84, for use where the image is to be displayed on a computer.

35 86. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 71 to 84, for use where the image is to be displayed on a personal digital assistant.

87. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 71 to 84, for use where the image is to be displayed on a mobile telephone.

88. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 71 to 87, 5 wherein said means to select a set of part images from among a plurality of part images includes means to provide said selection of a set of part images in the form of a text message.

89. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 71 to 88, 10 wherein said means to specify a position, to be occupied in the display includes means to specify said position in the form of a text message.

90. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 71 to 89, 15 wherein said means to specify said properties for each part image in said set of part images, comprises means to provide the specification in the form of a text message.

91. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 88, 89 or 90, 20 including means to receive said specification as a text message.

92. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 88, 89 or 90, including means to receive said specification as an appendage to a 25 text message.

93. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 71 to 92, including means to compacting codes used to represent said 30 selections.

94. An apparatus for transmitting an image, said apparatus comprising: means to send a signal to specify a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; means to send a signal to specify a position, to be occupied in the display, for each part image in said set of part images; and means to send a signal to specify the properties for each part image in said set of part 35 images.

95. An apparatus, according to claim 94, including means to send a signal to specify a viewpoint.

96. An apparatus, according to claim 94 or claim 95, wherein said means to send a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to send a signal to specify the colour of each part image in said set of part images.

97. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 96, wherein said means to send a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to send a signal to specify the texture of each part image in said set of part images.

98. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 97, wherein said means to send a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to send a signal to specify a cladding to be applied to each part image in said set of part images.

99. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 98, wherein said means to send a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to send a signal to specify the orientation of each part image in said set of part images.

100. An apparatus, according to any one of claim 94 to 99, wherein said means to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to specify the size of each part image in said set of part images.

101. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 100, wherein said means to send a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to send a signal to specify the transparency of each part image in said set of part images.

102. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 101, wherein said means to send a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to send a signal to specify the direction of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

103. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 102, wherein said means to send a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to send a signal to specify the type of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

104. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 103, wherein said means to send a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to send a signal to specify the speed of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

105. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 104, wherein said means to send a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to send a signal to specify the time or times to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images.

106. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 105, including means to obtain said set of part images from a server in a network.

107. An apparatus, according to claim 106, wherein said network comprises a mobile telephone network.

108. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 107, for use where the image is to be displayed on a computer.

109. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 107, for use where the image is to be displayed on a personal digital assistant.

110. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 107, for use where the image is to be displayed on a mobile telephone.

5 111. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 110, wherein said means to send a signal to select a set of part images from among a plurality of part images includes means to provide said signal to select a set of part images in the form of a text message.

10 112. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 111, wherein said means to send a signal to specify a position, to be occupied in the display includes means to provide said signal to specify the position in the form of a text message.

15 113. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 112, wherein said means to send a signal to specify said properties for each part image in said set of part images, comprises means to provide the signal to specify the properties in the form of a text message.

20 114. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 111, 112 or 113, including means to receive signals, representative of specifications, as a text message.

25 115. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 111, 112 or 113, including means to receive signals, representative of specifications, as an appendage to a text message.

30 116. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 94 to 115, including means to provide said signals as compacting codes.

35 117. An apparatus for receiving and create an image, said apparatus comprising: means to receive a signal to specify a set of part images from among a plurality of part images; means to receive a signal to specify a position, to be occupied in the display, for each part image in said set of part images; means to receive a signal to specify the properties for each part image in said set of

part images; and means, responsive to said signals, to generate and display the specified image.

118. An apparatus, according to claim 117, including means to receive a signal to specify of a viewpoint.

119. An apparatus, according to claim 117 or claim 118, wherein said means to receive a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to receive a signal to specify the colour of each part image in said set of part images.

120. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 119, wherein said means to receive a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to receive a signal to specify the texture of each part image in said set of part images.

121. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 120, wherein said means to receive a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to receive a signal to specify a cladding to be applied to each part image in said set of part images.

122. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 121, wherein said means to receive a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to receive a signal to specify the orientation of each part image in said set of part images.

123. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 122, wherein said means to receive a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to receive a signal to specify the size of each part image in said set of part images.

124. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 123, wherein said means to receive a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to receive a signal to specify the transparency of each part image in said set of part images.

125. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 124, wherein said means to receive a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to receive a signal to specify the direction of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

126. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 125, wherein said means to receive a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to receive a signal to specify the type of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

127. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 126, wherein said means to receive a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to receive a signal to specify the speed of movement or movements of each part image in said set of part images.

128. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 127, wherein said means to receive a signal to specify the properties of each part image in said set of part images includes means to receive a signal to specify the time or times to be displayed for each part image in said set of part images.

129. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 128, including means to obtain said set of part images from a server in a network.

130. An apparatus, according to claim 129, wherein said network comprises a mobile telephone network.

131. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 130, for use where the image is to be displayed on a computer.

5 132. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 130, for use where the image is to be displayed on a personal digital assistant.

133. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 130, for use where the image is to be displayed on a mobile telephone.

10 134. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 133, including means to receive the signal, to select the set of part images from among a plurality of part images, as a text message.

15 135. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 134, including means to receive the signal to specify the position of a part image, as a text message.

20 136. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 135, including means to receive a signal to specify the properties for each part image in said set of part images as a text message.

25 137. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 136, including means to receive a signal to provide said specifications as an appendage to a text message.

138. An apparatus, according to any one of claims 117 to 137, including means to receive signals to provide said specifications as compacted codes.